## IN THE CLAIMS

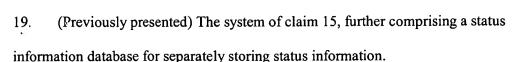
## 1-14. (Cancelled)

15. (Currently Amended) An update processing and transmission system, comprising: storage means for storing said-status information relating to a commerce-related event; status information retrieval means for <u>automatically</u> retrieving said status information from thea common carrier information system <u>via a network</u> and storing the status information into the storage means;

message generation means for automatically generating a status message reflective of said status information stored in the storage means; and

message forwarding means for automatically forwarding said status message to a point where it may be accessed by an interested party.

- 16. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein said status information relates to shipment of an item.
- 17. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein said status information retrieved by said status information retrieval means is contained on a second computer physically remote from a first computer on which said status information is stored and accessible via a network.
- 18. (Previously presented) The system of claim 15, wherein said status information is stored on a status information database within a first computer.





20. (Currently amended) An update processing and transmission method, including: <u>automatically receiving</u> status information relating to a commerce-related event in response to a status query to a common carrier information system, <u>wherein the status</u> information is received from the common carrier information system over a <u>network</u>;

storing the status information in a status database relating to a commerce-related event;

retrieving said status information from the status database;
automatically generating a status message reflective of said status information; and
automatically forwarding said status message to a point where it may be accessed by
an interested party.

- 21. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said status information relates to shipment of an item.
- 22. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said status information retrieved is contained on a first computer physically remote from a second computer which stores the status information.
- 23. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, wherein said status information is stored on the status information database within a first computer.
- 24. (Previously presented) The method of claim 20, further comprising separately storing said status information.